

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 03822 01 OF 02 121804Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 NSCE-00

DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02

SY-04 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 AID-05 H-01 IGA-01

NEA-09 EA-06 L-02 /069 W

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O 121753Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6630

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 03822

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, FR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING

REFS: (A) STATE 12151; (B) PARIS A-470, 8/6/74.

1. FRANCE RECEIVES NO ASSISTANCE UNDER SECTION 482 OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. REPORT BELOW THEREFORE RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS SECTION B OF REFTEL (A). IT COVERS PERIOD FROM JULY ONE TO DECEMBER 31, 1974.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS:

COOPERATION BETWEEN FRENCH AND AMERICAN DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS REMAINED EXCELLENT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. INVESTIGATIONS INDICATE THAT FRENCH HEROIN IS IN SHORT SUPPLY AT HIGH PRICE. SPECIAL EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED ON INTERDICTING ARRIVAL IN FRANCE OF HEROIN FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA. SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF HEROIN AND HASHISH AND SMALLER QUANTITIES OF COCAINE AND HASHISH OIL HAVE BEEN SEIZED IN FRANCE THROUGH COOPERATION OF FRENCH NARCOTICS POLICE, DEA AGENTS AND FRENCH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. OVER 50 TRAFFICKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED,

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PAGE 02 PARIS 03822 01 OF 02 121804Z

FOR THE MOST PART THROUGH INVESTIGATIONS IN WHICH

DEA ASSISTED. ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, FRENCH OFFICIALS ARE CONSIDERING AN EMBASSY DEMARCH URGING THAT FRANCE RATIFY THE PROTOCOL AMENDING THE SINGLE/CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 1961 (STATE 12353).

3. ABUSE:

AVAILABLE EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT DRUG USE IN FRANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE. NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BEEN NOTED SINCE THE EMBASSY'S REPORT IN SECTION A OF REF (B).

4. ENFORCEMENT:

THROUGH FRENCH-AMERICAN COOPERATION THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT OPERATIONS WERE UNDERTAKEN:

(A) EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A CHANNEL BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE U.S. FOR LEBANESE HEROIN WERE FORESTALLED WITH THE ARREST IN PARIS OF TWO TRAFFICKERS AND THE SEIZURE OF FIVE KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN FROM THE MIDDLE EAST.

(B) A YEAR-LONG INVESTIGATION OF WELL-DOCUMENTED FRENCH TRAFFICKERS CULMINATED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD IN THE SEIZURE OF 75 KILOGRAMS OF FRENCH HEROIN IN NEW YORK CITY. THE FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION AND ARRESTS OF MAJOR VIOLATORS CONTINUES IN FRANCE.

(C) EFFORTS TO SECURE FRENCH HEROIN FROM KNOWN SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND WITH OFFERS OF ADVANCE PAYMENT INDICATE THAT TRAFFICKERS ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN HEROIN READILY. FRENCH ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS HAVE RESULTED IN SHORT SUPPLY AND HIGH PRICE OF FRENCH HEROIN.

(D) EFFORTS WERE STEPPED UP IN FRANCE AND THROUGH-OUT EUROPE TO STEM THE TIDE OF HEROIN ARRIVING FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA, PRINCIPALLY KUALA LUMPUR AND HONG KONG. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD 19 OF THE 24 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN SEIZED IN FRANCE WERE TAKEN AT FRENCH AIRPORTS UPON ARRIVAL FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA. SAMPLES OF ASIAN HEROIN SEIZED IN THESE OPERATIONS WERE FORWARDED TO DEA SPECIAL TESTING LABORATORY FOR COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS.

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PAGE 03 PARIS 03822 01 OF 02 121804Z

(E) ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN FRANCE BY FRENCH CUSTOMS AND FRENCH NARCOTICS POLICE AND DEA AGENTS HAVE PRODUCED SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES OF NORTH AFRICAN HASHISH, PRINCIPALLY FROM MOROCCO. THE HASHISH APPEARED TO BE EN ROUTE TO ENGLAND, AMSTERDAM AND THE U.S.

5. TOTAL SEIZURES JULY TO DECEMBER 1974:

HASHISH: 989.65 KGM
HASHISH OIL: 16.50 KGM

COCAINE: 5 GRAMS
HEROIN: 24 KGM

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PAGE 01 PARIS 03822 02 OF 02 121816Z

47

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6631

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MORPHINE BASE: NONE
OPIUM: NONE

6. ARRESTS: 56 TRAFFICKERS.

7. THERE IS NO NEW LEGISLATION OR SIGNIFICANT TRENDS
IN COURT PROCESSING OF NARCOTICS CASES.

8. EMBASSY AND HOST GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES:
BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN FRENCH AND U.S.
OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN DRUG SUPPRESSION REMAINED
EXCELLENT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. FRENCH
OFFICIALS ARE WELL AWARE OF PROBLEMS THAT MAY ARISE
BECAUSE OF TURKISH DECISION ON OPIUM CULTIVATION.

THEY HAVE PROMISED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH U.S. OFFICIALS AND DEA OFFICERS IN ATTEMPTING TO INTER-DICT THE PROCESSING OF TURKISH OPIUM IN FRENCH CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES.

9. MORE RECENT COOPERATIVE EFFORTS, I.E. SINCE DEC 31 1974, INCLUDE:
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PAGE 02 PARIS 03822 02 OF 02 121816Z

(A) CUSTOMS AND CUSTOMS TRAINING PROGRAM: UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CONTROL, U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICERS PROVIDED INSTRUCTION FOR 25 FRENCH CUSTOMS OFFICERS FROM JANUARY 19 TO JANUARY 31, 1975. THE TRAINING WAS GIVEN TO INSTRUCTORS AT THE FRENCH CUSTOMS SCHOOL AT LA ROCHELLE, FRANCE. THE PROGRAM WAS PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL BECAUSE THE FRENCH INSTRUCTORS WILL PASS ON TO THEIR OWN STUDENTS THE TECHNIQUES THAT WERE EXPOSED TO THEM. THE TRAINING CONSISTS OF EXPLAINING THE LATEST METHODS OF BORDER CONTROL ACTIVITIES, INTERDICTION TECHNIQUES, BORDER SURVEILLANCE, ANTI-SMUGGLING PROGRAMS AND METHODS, CARGO CONTROL AND SEARCH AND SEIZURE METHODS. THE FRENCH CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH TRAINING PROGRAM BUT OFFICIALS IN LA ROCHELLE UNOFFICIALLY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ADDITIONAL COURSES WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE FUTURE.

(B) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: ON FEBRUARY 12 THE EMBASSY PRESENTED THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE WITH AN AIDE MEMOIRE URGING FRANCE TO RATIFY THE PROTOCOL TO AMEND THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 1961. THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS PROMISED TO GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THIS SUGGESTION.
RUSH

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